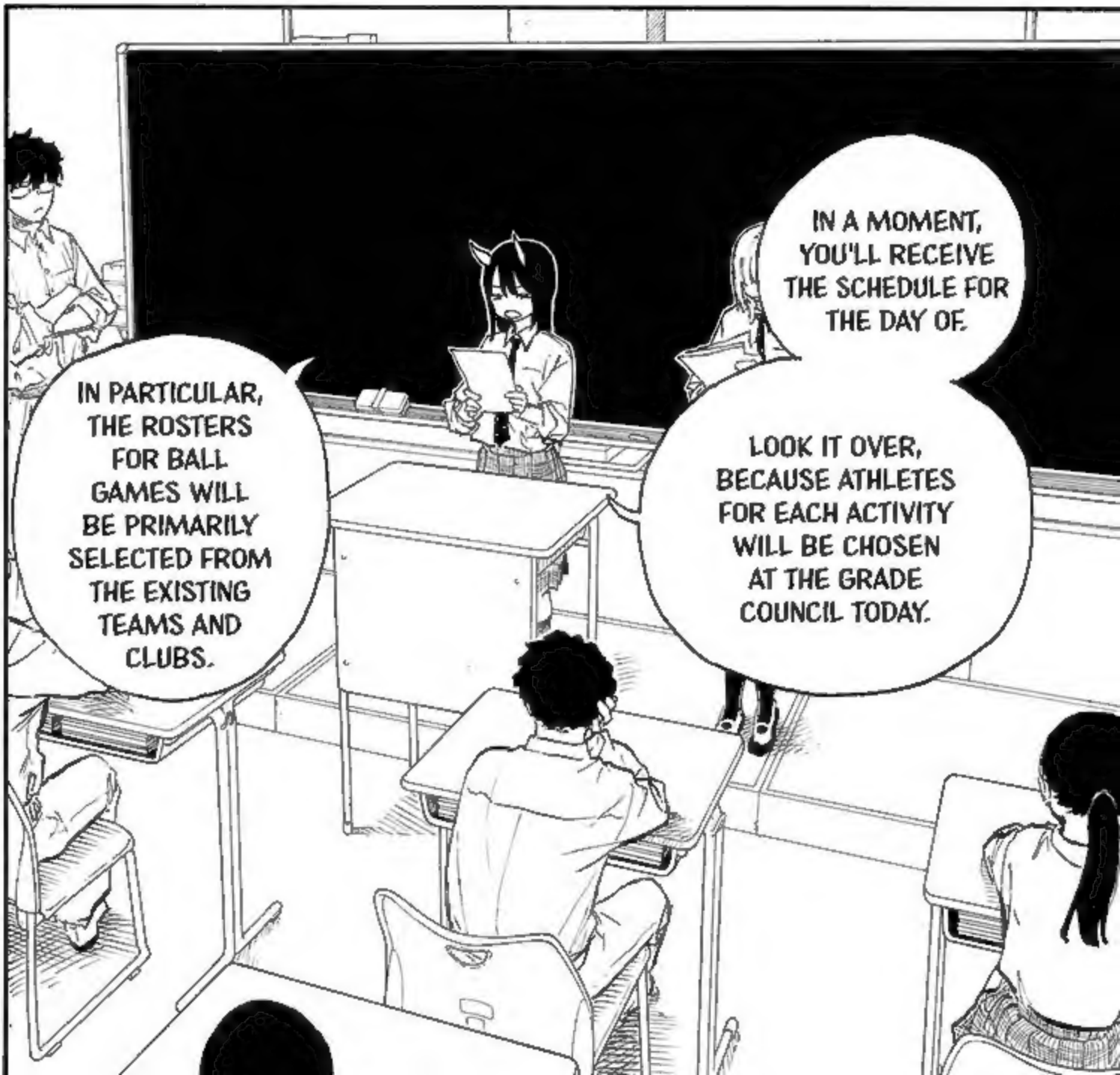
RUPiDragon

Chapter 13: Don't Need to Be Besties

By Masaoki Shindo

TRANSLATION: CALEB COOK LETTERING: KYLA AIKO

THE ACTION COMMITTEE HAS SOME UPDATES FOR EVERYONE ABOUT SPORTS DAY.
THIS WEEK, WE'LL BEGIN PREPARING FOR THE BIG EVENT.


IN A MOMENT, YOU'LL RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY OF.
LOOK IT OVER, BECAUSE ATHLETES FOR EACH ACTIVITY WILL BE CHOSEN AT THE GRADE COUNCIL TODAY.
IN PARTICULAR, THE ROSTERS FOR BALL GAMES WILL BE PRIMARILY SELECTED FROM THE EXISTING TEAMS AND CLUBS.

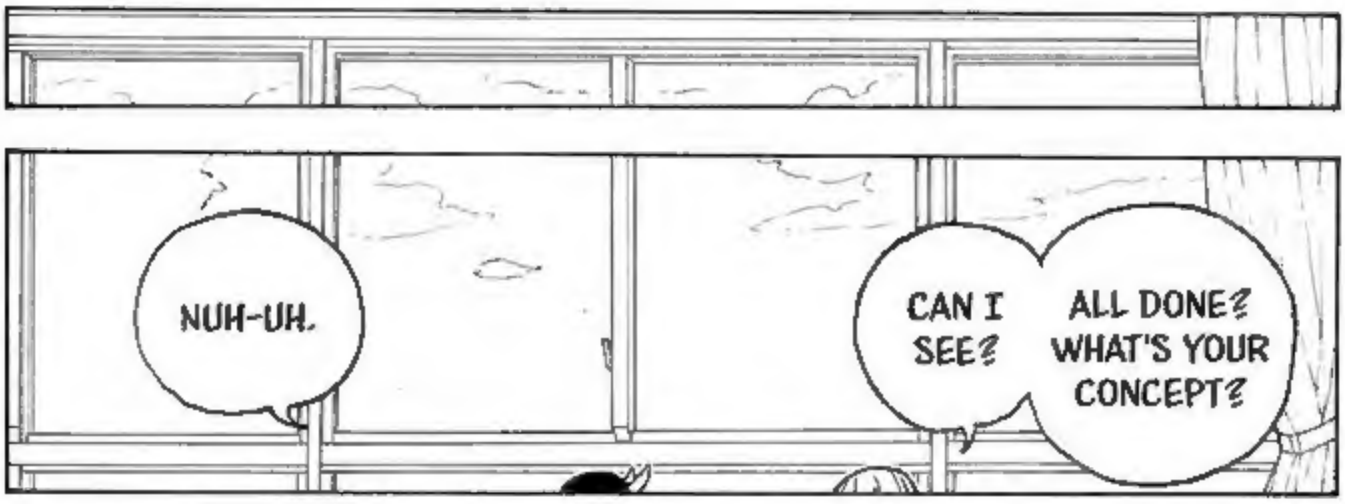
UGH, WAKE ME UP WHEN IT'S OVER.
NEXT, EACH CLASS WILL BE CREATING A BACKDROP.
THIS IS A JOINT EFFORT, SO START THINKING UP POSSIBLE DESIGNS.
ONE BACKDROP WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE WINNER AND...
SHE'S KIND OF ROCKING THIS.
THE RIGHT GAL FOR THE JOB? WHO KNEW!
WHO BETTER TO DELIVER BORING INFO ALL MATTER-OF-FACT, I GUESS?
YET...
HFF...
TH-THAT'S ALL FROM US.
HFF...

NOT MUCH OF A *GUESS*. YOU KNOW FOR A *FACT* WE AREN'T, KASHIRO.
LEMME GUESS— YOU AND MAEDA AIN'T EXACTLY BESTIES?
AH HA HA! FAIR.
GAH, THAT WAS TERRIFYING.

WE GO WAY BACK SINCE WE WENT TO THE SAME MIDDLE SCHOOL. I KNOW THE GIRL INSIDE AND OUT.
MM-HMM! ME AND MAEDA ARE PRETTY CLOSE.
OH. NEAT.
BUT...
...YOU DID INVITE HER TO HAVE LUNCH WITH US THE OTHER DAY.
WHAT, ARE YOU TWO CLOSE OR SOMETHING? I MEAN...
ANY TIPS? WHAT'S SHE ALL ABOUT?

YESTERDAY, I ASKED HER STRAIGHT, AND...
?
UM... NAW, JUST...
UH-HUH...
WHY? DID SOMETHING GO DOWN? SPILL.
WHAT I DON'T KNOW IS WHY SHE WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
BAH HA HA HA!! CLASSIC MAEDA!!
AND YOU ASKED THAT TO HER FACE? TOO WILD!!
BRUH. KEEP IT DOWN.
I WAS TOO SCARED TO FOLLOW UP.
...SHE DOESN'T LIKE ME CUZ I DON'T CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE.
SLAM
SLAM
??
IT'S KINDA CUTE HOW SHE STARES DAGGERS INTO PEOPLE.
OR YOU COULD SAY DIRECT. HONEST. IF WE'RE BEING CHARITABLE.
I BET YOU CAN RELATE, RURI.
LISTEN, THAT'S JUST HOW SHE IS, OKAY?
DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU. MAEDA'S A BLUNT OBJECT.

I SWEAR, SHE'S NOT A *TOTAL* MONSTER THOUGH.
WHY DON'TCHA TRY TALKING TO HER AGAIN?
WHERE'S THE LOGIC THERE?
ACTUALLY, THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT YOU'D GET ALONG.
I WAS SO WRONG!


NUH-UH.
CAN I SEE?
ALL DONE? WHAT'S YOUR CONCEPT?

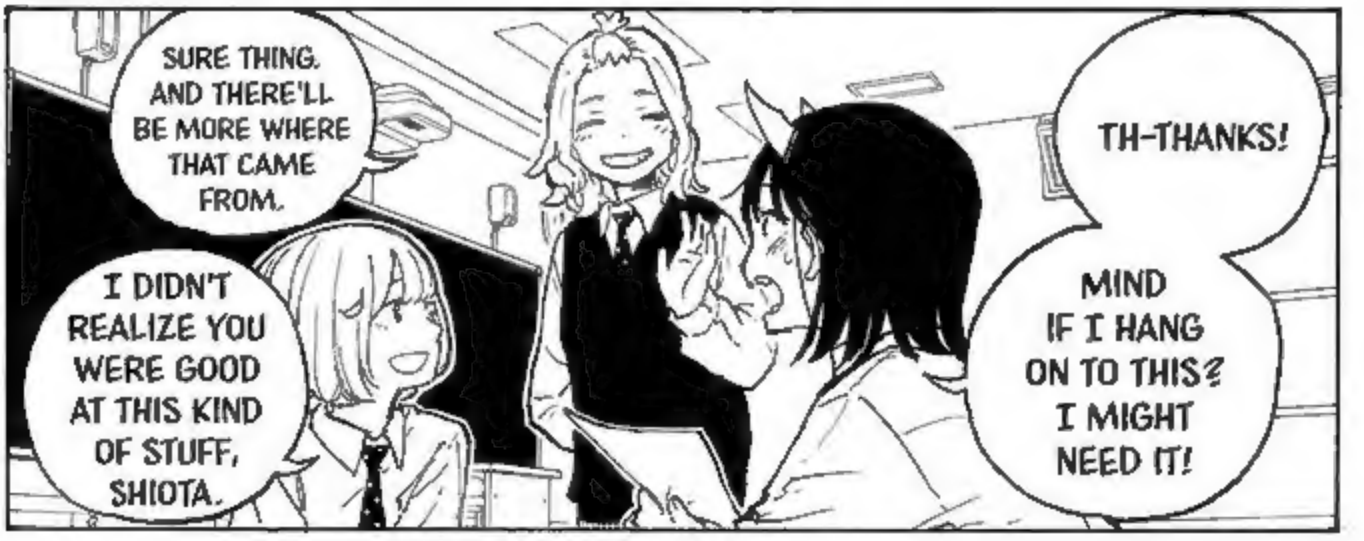
LET'S WORKSHOP WHATEVER YOU GOT.
C'MON. SHOW ME SO I CAN AT LEAST OFFER FEEDBACK.
UGH...
HMM...

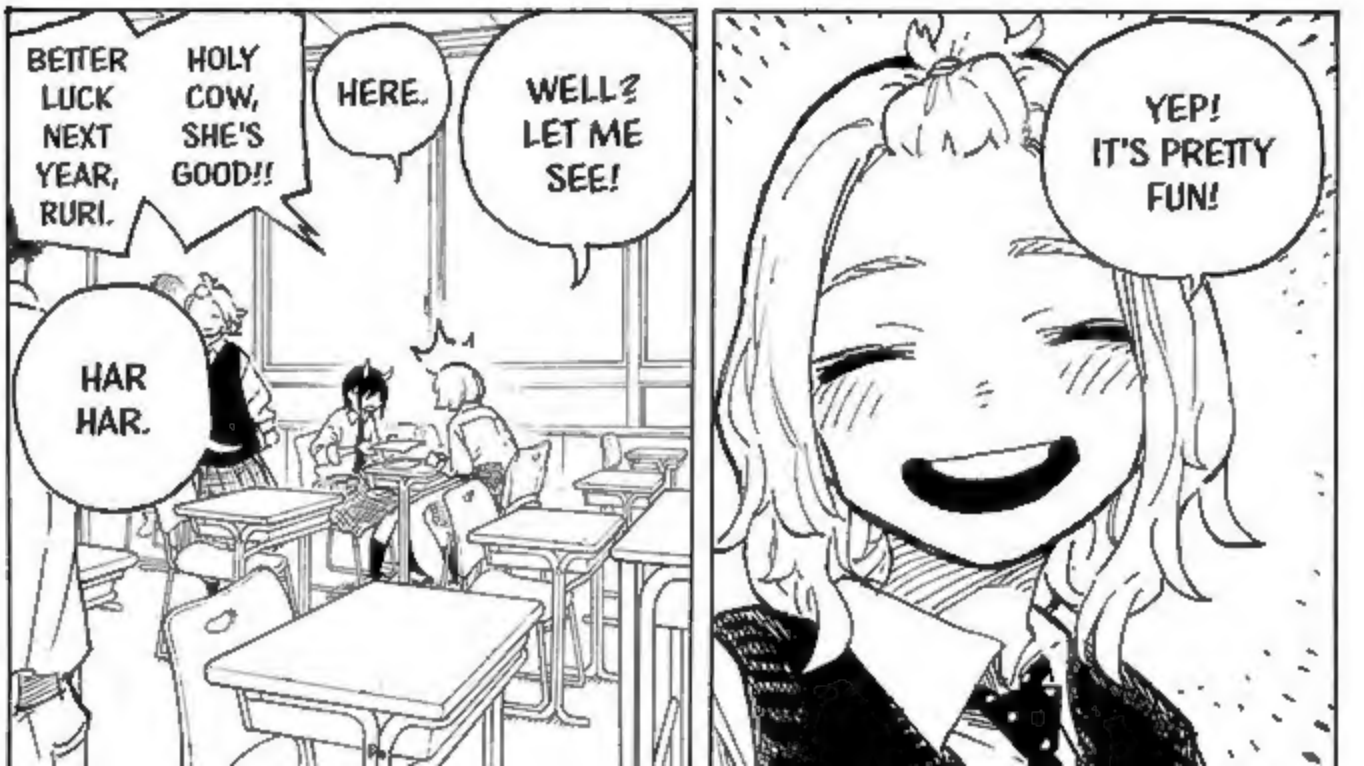
DON'T EVEN WASTE YOUR TIME ON THIS, YUKA. NO NEED.
HMM... NOBODY SAID GRAPHIC DESIGN WAS EASY.
YOU SAID, "WHATEVER." THIS IS MY WHATEVER.
My Design Idea...
がんばろう
We Can Do It
RURI. YOU JUST PUT WORDS IN A BOX.

YEAH, BUT I'M ON THE COMMITTEE. I GOTTA AT LEAST SHOW EVERYONE A SAMPLE.
OR, UHH... WHAT'S THE WORD AGAIN? A TEMPLATE?
HNNGH...
ME? TAKE THE LAZY WAY OUT WHEN YOU'RE ACTUALLY PUTTING REAL THOUGHT INTO IT? NOT A CHANCE.

UM, AOKI!
YUP. LET'S SEE...
RIGHT HERE.
YEAH?
DID THEY GIVE YOU OLD EXAMPLES TO REFERENCE?
IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S SOME RIGHT ANSWER FOR THIS.

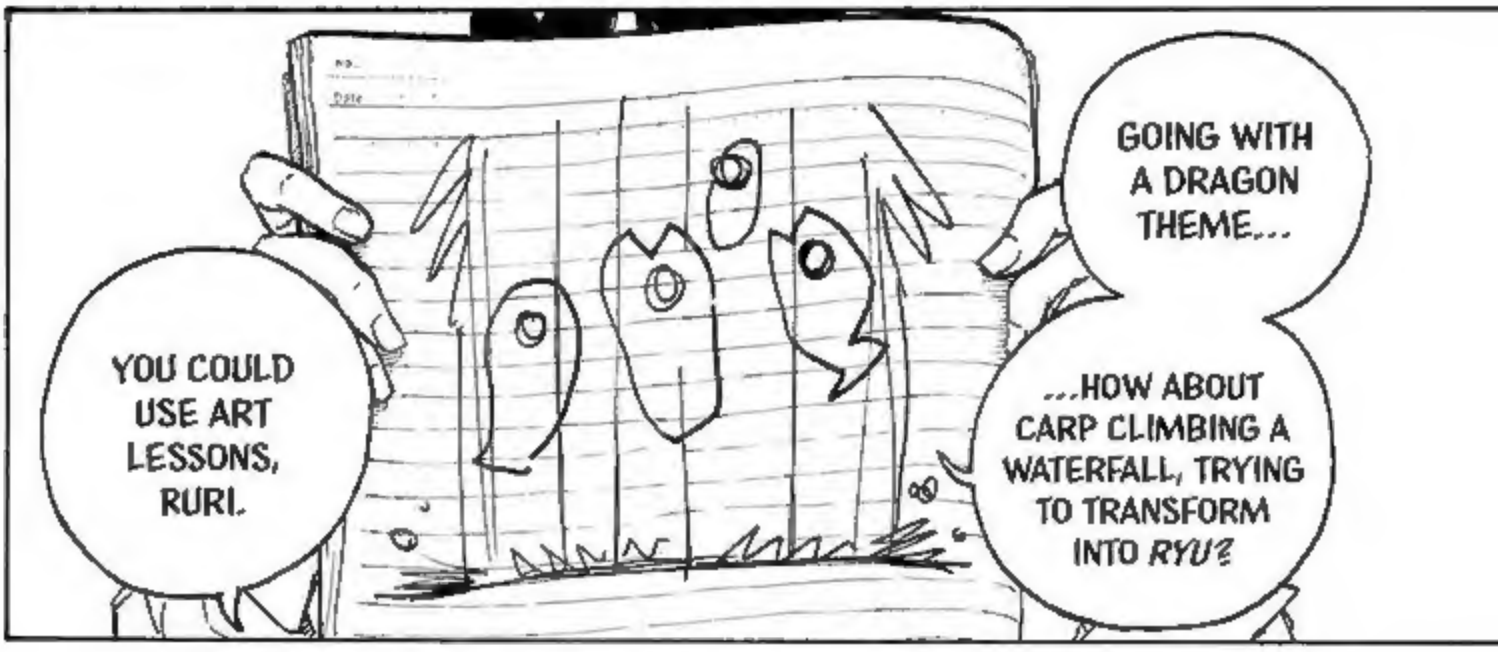
WHOA... THIS IS AMAZING.
HUH?
THAT WAS FAST.
AH.
COULD YOU CHECK OUT MY DESIGN? I KNOW IT'S PRETTY ROUGH, BUT STILL.


SURE THING. AND THERE'LL BE MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM.
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE GOOD AT THIS KIND OF STUFF, SHIOTA.
TH-THANKS!
MIND IF I HANG ON TO THIS? I MIGHT NEED IT!


BETTER LUCK NEXT YEAR, RURI.
HOLY COW, SHE'S GOOD!!
HERE.
WELL? LET ME SEE!
HAR HAR.
YEP! IT'S PRETTY FUN!

MAYBE EVERYONE'S CREATIVITY WILL START FLOWING ONCE THERE'S A TOP CONTENDER.
BRING IT ON
GAME ON!
TOO SIMILAR? MAN, THEY'RE ALL SO GOOD.
KIND OF A DIFFERENT VIBE THOUGH.
HANG ON, IT LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE ONE FROM TWO YEARS AGO.
AND REALLY, YOU SHOULD KNOW HER NAME BY NOW...
WE DON'T HAVE TO BE CLOSE TO MAKE SMALL TALK. I MEAN, WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS.
THAT'S HOW IT WORKS? REALLY?
HUH?
GOOD FRIENDS? NOT AT ALL.
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHO THAT WAS.
PSST. ARE YOU GOOD FRIENDS WITH... WHAT'S-HER-NAME? SHIOTA? YOU CHATTED LIKE IT WAS NOTHING.
PUTTING NAMES TO FACES IS HONESTLY ENOUGH TO GET BY.
TRUE...
...SINCE CLASS ROSTERS GET SHUFFLED AROUND EVERY YEAR ANYWAY.
YOU DON'T *NEED* TO BE BESTIES WITH EVERYONE...

CAN I SEE?
I GOT A GOOD ONE.
AH.


YOU COULD USE ART LESSONS, RURI.
GOING WITH A DRAGON THEME...
...HOW ABOUT CARP CLIMBING A WATERFALL, TRYING TO TRANSFORM INTO *RYU*?

C'MON, YOU'RE COMMITTEE BUDDIES! AND SHE SHOULD SEE SHIOTA'S DESIGN TOO.
NAAAH.

UHH...
BUT HEY, WHY NOT SHOW YOUR IDEA TO MAEDA?

June
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BUT I DON'T WAAANNA!!
DO IT DURING THE NEXT BREAK! NO IFS, ANDS, OR BUTS!
THIS WON'T WORK IF YOU TWO CAN'T WORK TOGETHER!

YEAH? WHAT ABOUT IT?
UM!!
D-DID YOU COME UP WITH ANYTHING?!

H-HI, MAEDA.
HMM?
SO, THE BACKDROP DESIGN THING...

I WORKED ON IT A BIT, YEAH. YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE?
!

?!
THAT'S NOT EVEN ALL OF THEM.
WOW.
Y-YOU DID A BUNCH.

"ANOTHER"...? MEANING WHAT? YOU CAN DRAW?
WHOA!! YOU DREW ALL THESE?!
ME?! HECK NO. NOT EVEN A LITTLE.
WE GOT ANOTHER MASTER ARTIST HERE.
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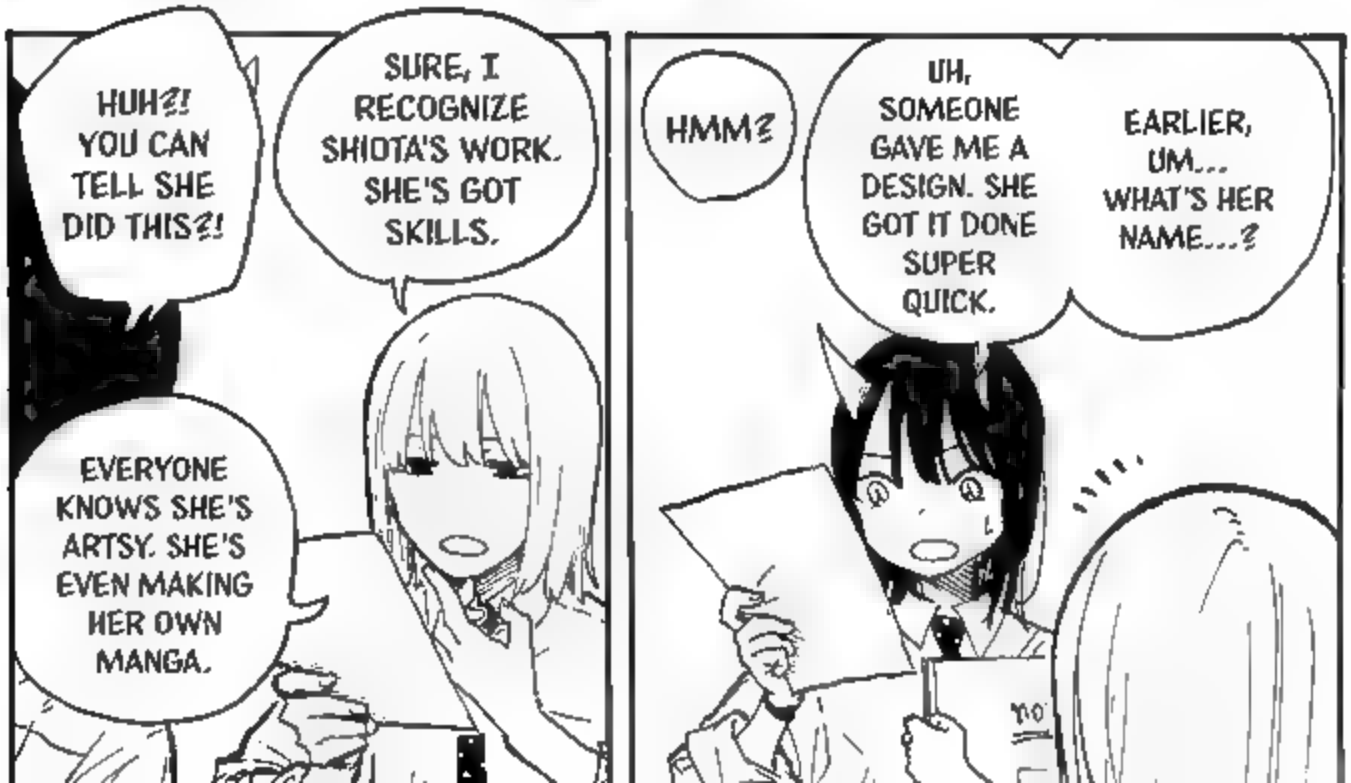
FWMP

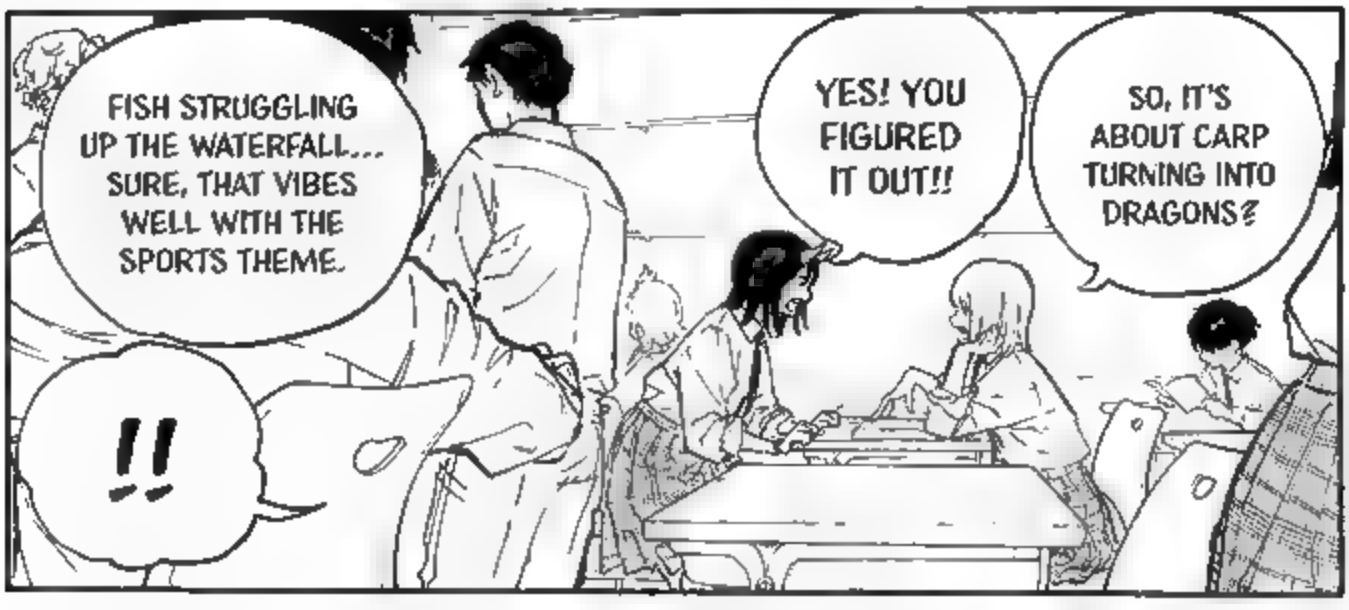

HUH?! YOU CAN TELL SHE DID THIS?!
SURE, I RECOGNIZE SHIOTA'S WORK. SHE'S GOT SKILLS.
EVERYONE KNOWS SHE'S ARTSY. SHE'S EVEN MAKING HER OWN MANGA.
HMM?
UH, SOMEONE GAVE ME A DESIGN. SHE GOT IT DONE SUPER QUICK.
EARLIER, UM... WHAT'S HER NAME...?

I GET IT ALREADY...
WHY DO YOU GOTTA SAY THAT?
CUZ IT'S THE TRUTH.
UGH...
YOU SERIOUSLY HAVE, LIKE, ZERO INTEREST IN OTHER PEOPLE, HUH?
...
SORRY. ABOUT YESTERDAY, I MEAN.
HUH?
KASHIRO SAID I COULD TRY DIALING BACK THE BLUNTNESS...
...AND I ALREADY REALIZED I WAS KINDA HARSH TO YOU.

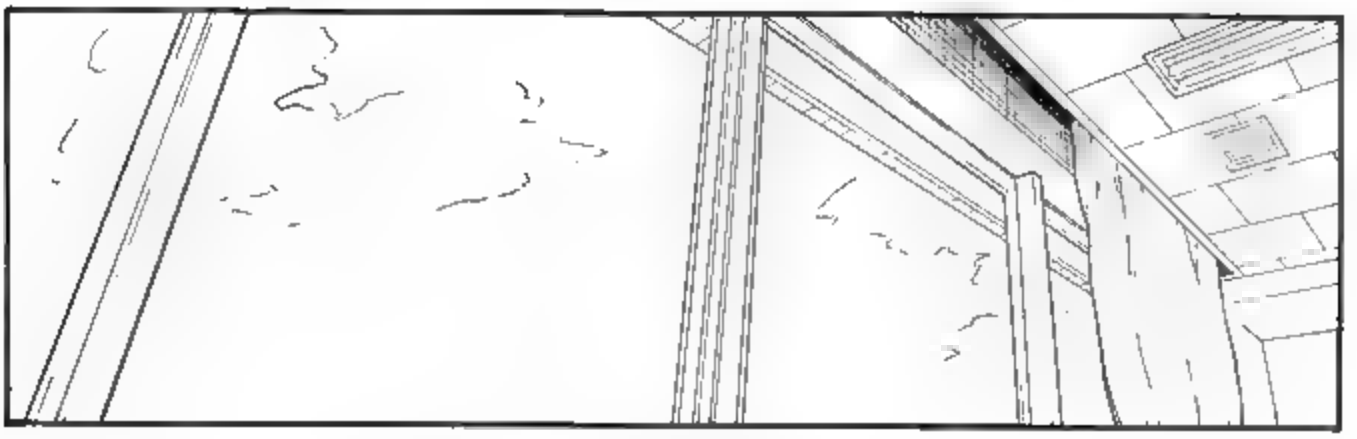
I MEAN, I *DID* ASK.
NO, I GET IT.
I MEANT WHAT I SAID, BUT I WASN'T ***TRYING*** TO BE MEAN ABOUT IT. SO... I'M SORRY.

GUESS I'LL TAKE THAT... SORRY, I KNOW I SUCK.
YEESH... WELL, I CAN AT LEAST TELL WHAT THEY ARE.

OH. UH-HUH. HERE.
I'M NOT SUPER PROUD OF IT.
ANYWAY... DID YOU DRAW SOMETHING, AOKI?


FISH STRUGGLING UP THE WATERFALL... SURE, THAT VIBES WELL WITH THE SPORTS THEME.
!!
YES! YOU FIGURED IT OUT!!
SO, IT'S ABOUT CARP TURNING INTO DRAGONS?

LET'S BRING YOUR IDEA TO THE DISCUSSION TODAY.
MM-HMM!!



About Sports Day
体育祭について
Relay Race Running Order
リレー選手順
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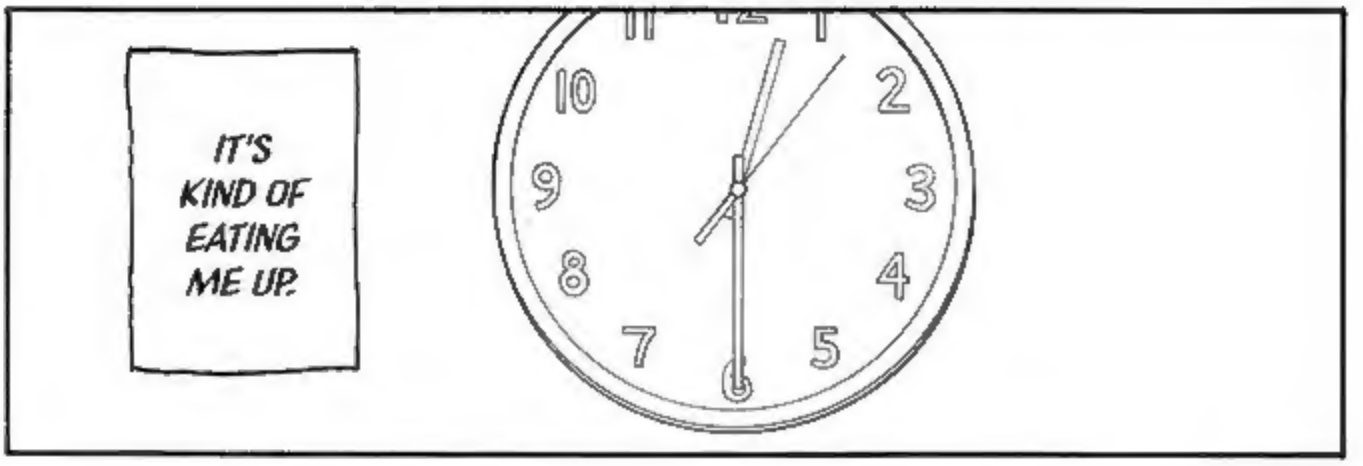
About Sports Day
体育祭について

IS THE BALL IN MY COURT NOW?
SHE ACTUALLY APOLOGIZED...


IT'S KIND OF EATING ME UP.

SORRY YUKA, BUT I GOTTA DITCH YOU TODAY.
REALLY? BUT I'VE GOT SHRIMP TO SHARE.
I'LL BE FINE.

ANYONE JOINING YOU?
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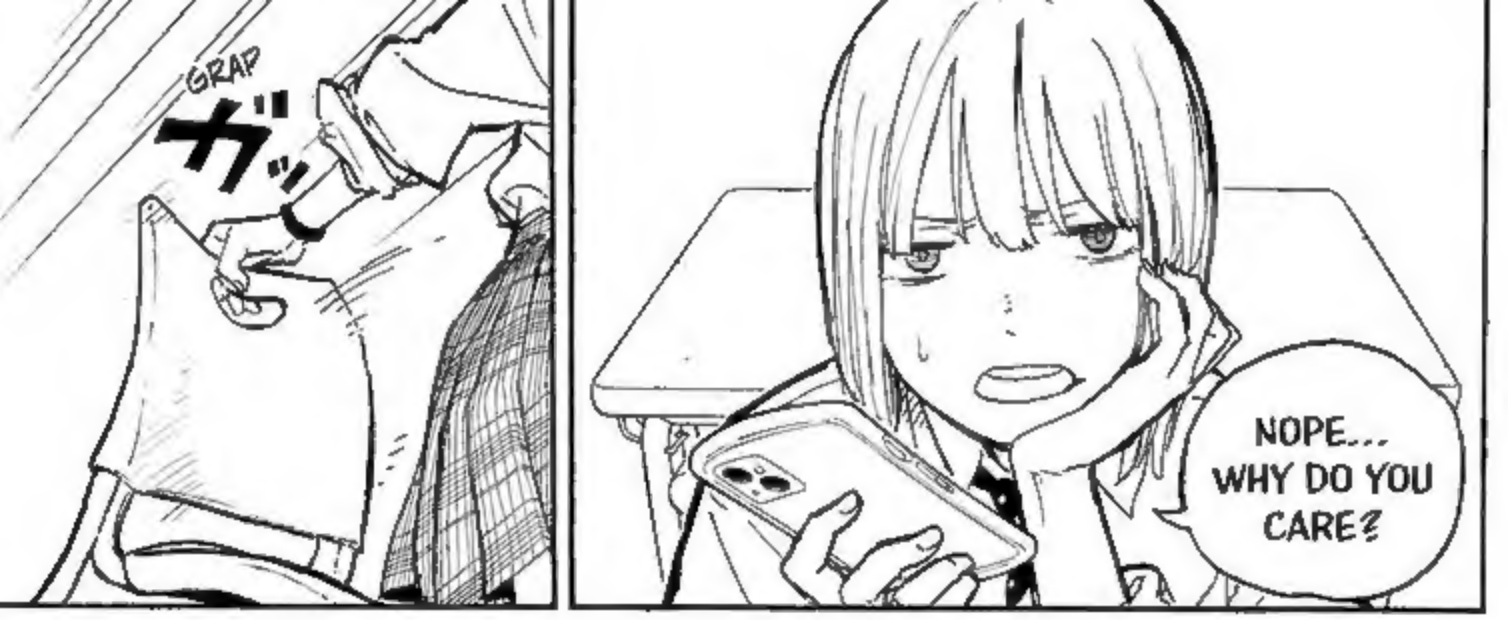
GRAP
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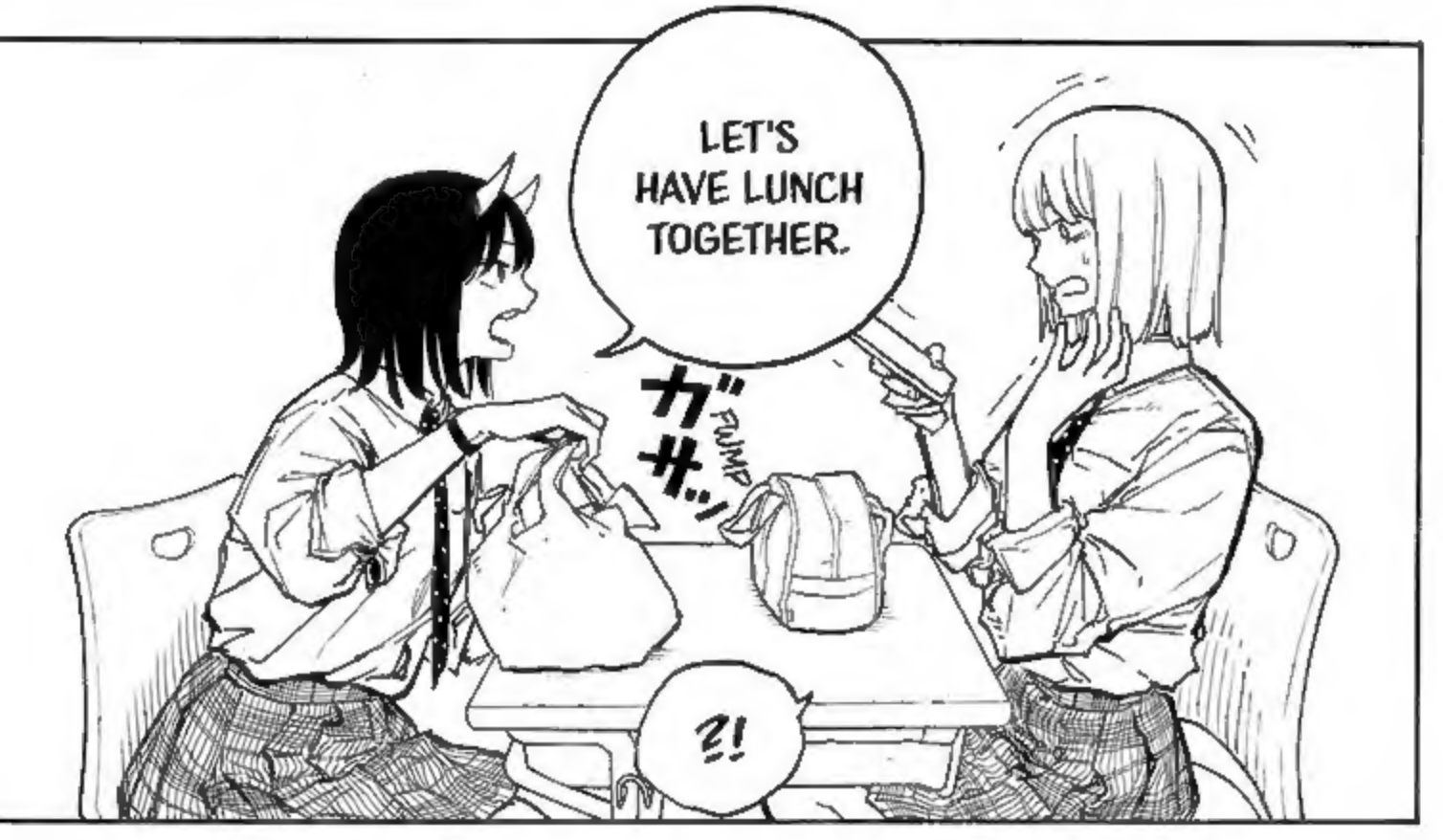
NOPE... WHY DO YOU CARE?


LET'S HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER.
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PUMP
?!

WHOA...
To be continued!
FOR REAL?